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danger of wounding the skin. But one exception to this occurred; one of the officers attempted to play with her in this manner with kid gloves on, and was immediately punished for his foppery by having her long teeth instantly forced through both his glove and his finger. She may have perceived some difference between the texture of the gloves and that of the fingers on which she was accustomed to try her teeth. She knew very well where to find warm sleeping places. She would for this purpose visit the hammocks of the men at night, and waken any sleeper she happened to fancy by patting him gently on the face with her paw. If encouraged and welcomed by a pat on the back or top of the head, she would lie down either against his breast or at his feet; but if refused by one or two very gentle boxes on the ear, she would retire with a discontented growl and seek a more hospitable sleeper. How she learned to distinguish between the taps on the top of the head as marks of approbation, and those on the sides of the opposite signification, is a subject of mystery, but there is no doubt of the fact; perhaps some of the men may have taught her the difference by boxing her more energetically.

She was very fond of licking the men about the face and gently pinching their ears in her teeth; and although she frequently engaged in this disagreeable amusement, she never wounded any one in the least while thus occupied. In cold weather she was very fond of getting between blankets, and required but the very slightest encouragement to crawl into the very middle of a bed and roll herself up in this position for her morning nap.

On one occasion it was noticed that she had a large tumor on the side of her face, and a large abscess formed. It was at first supposed that she had hurt her face in playing with a catfish; some one, however, noticed that it proceeded from an irregularity in shedding one of the milk teeth. One of the officers, of uncommon zeal in such matters, proposed to hold her while the obnoxious tooth was extracted. I determined to gratify him in this matter, and to the astonishment of all he held Miss Tiger on his lap while I extracted the obnoxious tooth with a pair of forceps, and neither of us was scratched during the operation.

She was fond of dark places, and delighted in running about deck and up the rigging early in the mornings and on cloudy days. When the men were called aloft to furl "top gallant sails," she would jump to the shrouds and have a race with them up the rigging, and with very little effort she was "first man in the top."

She generally showed so much excitement in the presence of birds, that doubtless her instinct would lead her to seize them. She killed three or four chickens at different times secretly, and off Cape Horn she seized and killed an albatross of at least double her weight. A common green parrot was at one time on board and she was exceedingly eager to get at it, but she was boxed a little on the ears and her head turned the other way a few times, till she appeared to understand that it was not for her. Subsequently, when she appeared to be watching it too intently, she was boxed a little and driven, till in about a week she seemed to regard it as one of the family.

In the beginning of December we were passing the West India Islands, the ship, in her course, starting flocks of flying fish, in which Miss Tiger became interested, they looked so much like birds. She was observed in the moonlight watching them very intently. Her absence was noticed at breakfast. A search through the ship made it certain she had been lost overboard during the night.

March 13th.

Mr. LEA, President, in the Chair.

Forty members present.

[March,

The following papers were presented for publication :

"Description of four new species of Unionidæ from Brazil, by Isaac Lea." "Description of fifteen new species of Uruguayan Unionidæ, by Isaac Lea."

And were referred to a Committee.

Mr. Lea stated that when he made some remarks, a few weeks since, on the *Unionidæ* of the United States, he gave the number of them incorrectly by an inadvertence. He now desired to restate them numerically :

Unio,	465 species.
Margaritana,	26 "
Anodonta,	59 "
	<hr/>
	550

To these may be added, new species in his cabinet not yet described,	30
	<hr/>
	580

And to these may be added, for North America, known to inhabit Mexico, Honduras, Central America and one in Canada,	Unio, 29
	Anodonta, 8
	<hr/>
	37
	<hr/>
	617

It will be observed that we have not in North America either of the genera *Triquetra*, (*Hyria*, Lam.) *Prisodon*, (*Castalia*, Lam.) *Monocondylæa*, *Mycetopus*, *Byssandonta*, or *Plagiodon*. They are all emphatically South American types, while there does not seem to inhabit the southern half of America a single species of *Margaritana*, (*Alasmodonta*, Say.) Ferussac has described a species (*A. incurva*) as coming from South America, but there is reasonable doubt of it. The *Monocondylæa* and *Margaritana* seem mutually to replace each other. The *Uniones* and *Anodontæ* prevail in both parts of the continent over all the other genera, both as to numbers and universality of distribution. The genus *Mulleria*, (*Acostea*, D'Orb.) has only been found in the tributaries of the Magdalena in New Granada.

Dr. Leidy called the attention of the members to a specimen of the singular body, named *Hyalonema mirabilis*, recently presented by Dr. Ruschenberger. It is the second specimen obtained within a short time for the Academy. Both are from Japan. The specimen of *Hyalonema* exhibited, consists of a twisted cord of siliceous spiculæ over a foot in length, and about half an inch in diameter. Twisted around it is a coriaceous membrane with wart-like eminences, belonging to a zoophyte, which Dr. L. regards with M. Valenciennes as parasitic. The cord of siliceous spiculæ, Dr. J. E. Gray supposes to be the axis of the zoophyte, but Dr. L. with M. Valenciennes, views it as belonging to a sponge. This latter view is apparently confirmed by a specimen of a sponge, in the cabinet of the Academy, from Santa Cruz, presented by the late Dr. Griffith. This sponge is an oblong oval mass, about four inches long, surmounted at one extremity with a corona of twisted cords of siliceous spiculæ about two inches in length. These spiculæ are very similar in structure to those of the *Hyalonema*, mainly differing in size.

The Publication Committee laid on the table, part 3, vol. 4, of the Journal of the Academy.
1860.]